

City of New Bedford Office of the Mayor Stephanie Poyant Office: (508) 979-1410

Cell: (508) 989-4407

stephanie.poyant@newbedford-ma.gov

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## PRESS RELEASE

## New Bedford Council On Aging Reveals New Mini-Bus

**New Bedford, Massachusetts**- Thanks to the Massachusetts Department of Transportation and the Patrick-Murray Administration, Mayor Scott W. Lang and the New Bedford Council On Aging (COA) are pleased to announce the availability of a new mini-bus which was awarded to the City through the Mobility Assistance Program Grant and is the first mini-bus of its kind awarded to the New Bedford COA.

The new mini-bus is wheel chair accessible and can accommodate 14 passengers, including 2 wheelchairs.

The addition of the new min-bus has allowed the New Bedford COA to expand its transportation services. Below is a list of transportation services offered by the COA.

## **Local Transportation:**

The New Bedford COA is proud to offer curb to cub, round trip transportation service to New Bedford Seniors (age 59 years and older) for local medical appointments in New Bedford and in parts of Dartmouth and Fairhaven. This service is available Monday through Friday between 8:30am and 2:00pm, with early pick-up available in emergency situations.

There is a \$5 fee per round trip service and space is limited so please call to schedule your transportation service as soon as your doctor's appointment has been made. For more information call the New Bedford COA at 508-991-6271.

## **Boston Transportation:**

The New Bedford, Mattapoisett and Fairhaven Councils on Aging Medical Transportation programs are now offering transportation to Boston area hospitals.

Service to Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston Medical Center, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Brockton VA Hospital, Dana Farber, Faulkner Hospital: Physical Therapy, Joslin Diabetes Center, Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary, Massachusetts General Hospital, New England Baptist Hospital, and New England Medical/TUFTS will begin on July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

Transportation will be available on the second Monday, Tuesday and Friday of every month, except when a holiday falls on a Monday, in which case transportation will be available on the third Monday, Tuesday and Friday of the month.

Pick-up locations and times are as follows:

Fairhaven Council on Aging 229 Huttleston Avenue Fairhaven, MA 02719 Pick-up at 7:00am Stop and Shop 1001 Kings Highway New Bedford, MA 02745 Pick-up at 7:30am

Individuals interested in this service should schedule their doctor's appointments accordingly as return pick-up will begin at 2:00pm. Round trip service is available for \$50 per person. A 48 hour notice of cancellation in required.

To schedule a transportation appointment please contact the New Bedford Council On Aging at (508) 991-6253. For more information please contact your local Council On Aging: Fairhaven (508) 979-4029, Mattapoisett (508) 758-4110, New Bedford (508) 991-6253.

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